

~~partial or total deletion of a protein IX DNA sequence and a gene encoding a foreign functional protein having a tumor suppressive function.~~

19. (Amended) A method of inhibiting the proliferation of a tumor in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of [the adenoviral expression vector of claim 1] a recombinant adenovirus expression vector comprising a partial or total deletion of a protein IX DNA sequence and a gene encoding a foreign functional protein having a tumor suppressive function under suitable conditions to the animal.

26. (Amended) A method for reducing the proliferation of tumor cells in a subject comprising administering under suitable conditions an effective amount of an adenoviral expression vector [of claim 12] comprising a partial or total deletion of a protein IX DNA sequence and a gene encoding a suicide protein or a biologically active fragment thereof and an effective amount of a thymidine kinase metabolite or a functional equivalent thereof.

In claim 31, please delete "12" and insert --26--.

REMARKS

The specification of the present application has been amended to incorporate sequence identifiers, and to incorporate sequence listing pages as required under 37 CFR 1.821. These amendments are formal in nature and present no new matter.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for early examination and action toward that end is respectfully requested.